

REMARKS

The present amendment is intended to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the captioned application are hereby respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Primary Examiner for the courtesy of an interview granted to Applicants' representatives, Sanford T. Colb, registration number 26,856, and David Zviel, registration number 41,392, on 28 February 2005. The substance of the interview is described in the Interview Summary.

Claims 15, 16, 18 - 25, 27, 42, and 46 - 55 were pending in the present application before the present amendment. The present amendment amends claims 15, 16, 18, 19, and 42, and cancels claims 27, 52, and 53 without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the cancelled claims, as well as the amended claims in their previous form, in the context of a continuing application.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections included in the previous final Office Action, as explained in the previous Response.

Nevertheless, in order to facilitate allowance of the present application, independent claims 15 and 42 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner in the interview mentioned above; independent claim 27, as well as claims 52 and 53 which depended therefrom, has been cancelled without prejudice. Consequential amendments have been made to dependent claims 16, 18, and 19.

The amendments to the claims make the distinction of the present invention over the prior art particularly clear.

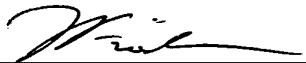
The amendments to the claims are supported, *inter alia*, by Fig. 2 and the description thereof on pages 16 and 17 of the specification.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the captioned application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the captioned application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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